

interior very short, indistinct, second longer, third longest, fourth moderate, far back. Scales rather thick, broad, 6-sided, longitudinally striated. Rostral plates rounded, erect; supranasal plates two pair; frontal plates two, anterior broad, 6-sided, posterior elongate, 6-sided; superciliary shields 3·3. Ears open, rounded; nostril lateral; loreal shield 3·3; lower eyelid opaque, with a series of erect band-like scales.

Sauresia sepsoides. Gray brown (in spirits), with a broad dark brown streak, edged above by a narrow pale line on the upper part of each side of the body and tail.

Hab. St. Domingo.

XXIX.—*Some Account of a Dredging Expedition on the coast of the Isle of Man during the months of May, June, July and August 1852.* By T. C. EYTON, Esq., F.L.S., F.Z.S.

HAVING been staying at Douglas, Isle of Man, for a period of nearly four months during the past summer, and having a small yacht, I have been out dredging, chiefly from off Douglas Head to Maughold Head, weather permitting, pretty constantly during that period; it may not therefore be uninteresting to the readers of this Magazine to know what the products have been, more especially to those who may follow me over the same ground. Professor Forbes has investigated the fauna of the sea off the island, but his labours have been confined chiefly to the S.W. coast, while mine, on the contrary, have been on the N.E. side of the island. The beds I have been working upon extend nearly continuously from about a mile and a half off Douglas Head to Maughold Head; the depth varies from 16 to 27 fathoms. The greatest portion of the bottom is covered with Nullipore; on some portions scarcely a live shell is found; other parts, especially off Douglas Head, Laxey Point and Maughold Head, abound in scallops and oysters; the former are chiefly dredged by the fishermen to set the deep sea line with, and furnish an excellent bait for many kinds of fish, especially haddock. The fishermen generally bait their lines with the scallops obtained the first haul, while the dredge is down for another, throwing the shells overboard, which will account to a certain extent for the large number of dead shells on the beds. The following is a list of the fish I observed while on the island:—

The Haddock, *Morrhua Eglefinus*, Cuv. Taken with the long lines; is in best season in the winter and spring.

The Cod, *Morrhua vulgaris*, Cuv. Taken in the same manner as the last.

The Bib, *Morrhua lusca*, Flem. Taken with hand lines in Douglas Bay.

Whiting, *Merlangus vulgaris*, Cuv. Douglas Bay.

Whiting Pollack, *Merlangus Pollachius*, Cuv. Taken with hand lines in Douglas Bay and other places round the island; it is called by the fishermen the Callack.

The Ling, *Lota Molva*, Cuv. Taken with long lines.

Rock-Ling, *Motella vulgaris*. Also taken with the long lines.

The Plaice, *Platessa vulgaris*, Flem. Taken with the long lines and also trawling.

The Flounder, *Platessa Flesus*, Flem. Taken as the last: the left-handed variety is not uncommon.

Dab, *Platessa Limanda*, Flem. Taken as the last.

Band Fluke, *Platessa Limandoides*, Jenyns. This fish is taken trawling on a sand bed between the Calf and the Irish coast, and is called on the island the Sand Sole.

Turbot, *Rhombus maximus*, Cuv. Found of a very large size in the Calf Sound; one was taken while I was on the island 90 lbs. weight, with a long line set at the turn of the tide in the Sound; it is also taken trawling.

Brill, *Rhombus vulgaris*, Cuv. Taken in the same manner as the preceding.

Sole, *Solea vulgaris*, Cuv. Taken trawling.

Cornish Sucker, *Lepadogaster cornubiensis*, Flem. Taken commonly among the rocks in Douglas Bay.

Conger, *Conger vulgaris*, Cuv. Taken with long lines in abundance.

Sand Eel, *Ammodytes Tobianus*, Cuv. Common.

Red Gurnard, *Trigla Cuculus*, Linn.

Grey Gurnard, *Trigla Gurnardus*, Linn. Both of the last are taken with lines commonly.

Armed Bullhead, *Aspidophorus europæus*, Cuv. Taken in a seine set for salmon.

Father-lasher, *Cottus Bubalis*, Euph. Common.

Sea Bream, *Pagellus centrodontus*, Cuv. Common round the island: taken with hand lines.

Mackerel, *Scomber Scomber*, Linn. Common during July and August.

Dory, *Zeus Faber*, Linn. Not uncommon.

Spotted Gunnel, *Muraenoides guttata*, Lacép. Common in puddles among the rocks on the coast.

Ballan Wrasse, *Labrus maculatus*, Bloch. Taken commonly with lines; it is called by the fishermen the Bolland.

Red Wrasse, *Labrus carneus*. Taken occasionally with hand lines, but not so common as the last species.

Salmon, *Salmo Salar*, Linn. Taken in nets at the mouth of rivers at Ramsay, Peele and Douglas.

Salmon Trout, *Salmo Trutta*. Taken in the same manner as the last species.

Herring, *Clupea Harengus*, Linn. The Isle of Man is celebrated for its herrings, which appear generally on the Peele side of the island in June; towards August they are chiefly found on the Douglas side, but are not considered such good-eating then as they are when taken on the Peele side. A very large number of fishing smacks, or luggers, as they are called on the island, are employed in the herring trade; I have counted upwards of ninety within sight at one time from the Calf; there are also several carrying-boats employed to take the herrings off for sale to Liverpool and elsewhere.

Skate, *Raia Batis*, Linn. Common.

Sand Ray, *Raia maculata*, Mont. Not uncommon, but not so frequent as the last.

Worm Pipe-fish, *Syngnathus lubriciformis*, Jen. One specimen taken under stones in Douglas Bay.

The following is a list of the Mollusca dredged up:—

Cyprina islandica.	Fissurella reticulata.
Cardium serratum.	Trochus tumidus.
Venus scotica.	_____ striatus.
_____ casina.	_____ zizophinus.
_____ gallina.	_____ granulatus.
_____ ovata.	_____ magus.
Tapes Virginea.	Trophon muricatum.
Pectunculus Glycimeris.	Strombus pes pelecani.
Pecten maximus.	Cypræa europæa.
_____ opercularis.	Var. diaphana.
_____ varius.	Bulla lignaria: only one broken specimen.
_____ Tigrinus.	Murex erinacea.
_____ Pusio.	Fusus islandicus.
Psammobia ferroensis.	_____ antiquus.
Saxicava rugosa.	Buccinum undatum.
Lima Loscombii.	Tornatella fasciata.
Osteodesma corbuloides.	Natica monilifera.
Mytilus edulis.	Nerita littoralis.
Anomia ephippium.	Turritella communis.
_____ striatum.	Chiton fascicularis.
Ostrea edulis.	_____ asellus.
Dentalium entalis.	_____ marmoreus.
Pileopsis hungarica.	_____ ruber.
Patella pellucida.	_____ albus.
_____ vulgata.	Eolis angulata.
Aemæa virginea.	_____ arenicola.
Emarginula reticulata.	

The following Crustacea were also captured:—

Inachus doryrhynchus.	Pagurus cuanensis.
— tenuirostris.	— levis.
Pisa tetraodon.	Munida Rondeletii.
— Gibbsii.	Galathea squamifera : on the shore.
Ebalia Pennantii.	Palæmon squilla.
Hyas coarctatus.	Capsella phasma.
Portunus pusillus.	Idotea tricuspidata.
Acheus Cranchii.	Oniscus oceanicus.
Pilumnus hirtellus.	Praniza cærulata.
Pinothores pisum.	

Besides the above lists, I have specimens of many other animals which I propose to add in another paper, not having been able to name some of them very satisfactorily at present; and also a list of Sponges.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

LINNÆAN SOCIETY.

June 17, 1851.—Robert Brown, Esq., President, in the Chair.

Read a Letter from Thomas Forster, Esq., M.B., F.L.S., dated from Bruges, May 21st, 1851, and addressed to the Secretary, containing some observations “On the present season in relation to the Migration of Birds and other Natural Phænomena.”

Dr. Forster commences his letter by referring to a passage in White’s ‘Natural History of Selborne,’ where it is remarked that the Swallow-tribe, and particularly the Martins, must suffer great devastation in the course of their winter migrations, inasmuch as, in certain seasons “the numbers of single birds which return in the spring bear no manner of proportion to those who retire in autumn.” Dr. Forster’s Journal, now of forty years’ standing, shows that this disproportion is greatest in late springs, particularly when accompanied with much wet and windy weather. The present season has been especially remarkable. After a winter the mildest ever remembered in Belgium, the spring was cold and showery, and nearly all the periodical phænomena were later than usual; while many tribes of plants suffered severely from some obscure atmospherical influence, apparently referable to the same class of causes which produce epidemics in the human subject and epizooties among animals. The *Hyacinthus plumosus* died off in most gardens, and also the *Muscari racemosus*. As soon as the flowers showed themselves the stock began to wither and in a few days died away, whole beds going off in the same way. Great numbers of Tulips perished in the ground; the leafing of trees was very late; and the Mulberry had not at the date of the letter shown any signs of budding. The Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) arrived on the 18th of April, and had